

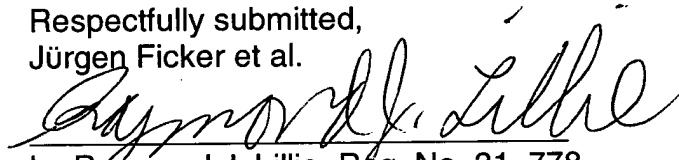
REMARKS

Claims 1-14 are active. This is a preliminary amendment accompanying the above entitled application.

Minor amendment is made to the specification, to the abstract and to the claims to improve their form and eliminate improper multiple dependencies. Entry of this amendment is respectfully requested. No new matter is introduced.

No fee is believed due, however, any fee due for this paper or overpayment made, are respectively requested to be charged or credited to deposit account 03-0678.

Respectfully submitted,
Jürgen Ficker et al.



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